Ser. No.: 09/889,659 Amendment B

Page 2

ABSTRACT

A system and a method in which there are transponders which execute commands issued by an interrogator. interrogator sends out interrogation-signals, and a transponder answers with a start signal. The interrogator then modifies its interrogation-signal and this causes the answering transponder to send an identification-signal and the other transponders to be silent for a time period. interrogator may subsequently send a second modification of the interrogation-signal and a command which causes the other transponders to remain silent for a period of time, and the answering transponder to execute the command. may follow repeated modified-interrogation-signals and additional commands so that the other transponders remain silent while the answering transponder executes the commands. After a certain time following the last modifiedinterrogation-signal and executed command the transponders return to the non-silent state. Time is measured by local counters in each transponder.

